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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A novel method of delivering conjugated linoleic acid to an animal involves compounding feed or food for human consumption with a biologically active amount of conjugated linoleic acid alkyl ester (CLA-ester). The CLA-ester comprises a mixture of c9,t11-octadecanoic acid and t10,c12-octadecanoic acid, with contaminating isomers being present at an aggregate percentage of less than 5. Manufactured from sunflower or safflower oil, the CLA-esters contain less than 0.5 percent phosphatidyl residue, so that a food grade product is made without special purification and refining steps.